



Permanent Mission of the Arab Republic of Egypt

**The Human Rights Council
Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review
Twenty First Session**

Review of Spain

(Geneva, 21st January 2015)

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Mr. President,

My delegation welcomes the esteemed delegation of Spain, and is grateful for the valuable introductory remarks delivered earlier today.

Egypt commends the establishment of provincial discrimination departments, the criminalization of forced marriage, as well as Spain's continued commitment towards women's rights and combating human trafficking including through international cooperation and establishing a separate offence under penal code.

We recognize the difficulties resulting from the financial and economic crisis on social protection and promotion of human rights, particularly economic, social, and cultural rights, in Spain. In this context, Egypt recommends that any austerity measures adopted by the Government are minimal, temporary, proportional, non-discriminatory, and takes into account the needs of the poorest and most disadvantaged citizens.

While acknowledging national efforts to combat racism and xenophobia, Egypt encourages Spain to further these efforts against recent challenges. Egypt recommends Spain in this regard to accede to International Convention on the Rights of Migrant Workers (ICRWM) and to establish racial profiling by Law Enforcement Official as a separate criminal offence.

Egypt also recommends Spain to provide protection for the family unit as the natural and fundamental unit of society.

I thank you.
